CWIT UPDATE

Your Bi-Annual Digest of CWIT reflections and updates

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Hello CWIT Community!

The CWIT staff is busy getting ready for the fall semester, which will be different from any we've had before (I'm getting tired of saying that...). As we try to navigate safety concerns and precautions with the potential to finally see our students in person, we are planning a typically ambitious slate of events and programs. We will be experimenting with small in-person events with social distancing, outdoor events, hybrid events, and large events that will remain virtual. The campus has instituted a vaccine mandate and an indoor mask mandate, which gives us some flexibility to incorporate all of these modes in our fall planning. We face the fall with a wild mix of excitement and nervousness, but mostly joy in the work that we do and the students we serve.

The spring semester brought more experience and comfort to our online reality. We were able to continue offering all of our programs and events online, and we also were able to complete our recruitment, application, and selection process for the coming fall cohort of scholars. The new cohort completed their New Scholar Retreat virtually but will be able to continue their community building in person in the fall. Last fall's new cohort, who spent their first year mostly virtually, will also have some special opportunities this fall to strengthen their ties with each other and with CWIT in person.

The semester started with our annual Winter Retreat in early February, where we all took a deep dive into the historical and sociological roots of racism and sexism in the country and how disparities ripple through our society. More about the retreat later in this newsletter. Also, read a bit later about our first annual CWIT Awards event and our award recipients. Instituting these awards was a wonderful way for us to recognize our valuable partners and the work they do, as well as the students in our community who serve as prime examples of the CWIT values.

A big shout out to the CWIT Student Council, who continued their work this year of helping to keep the community strong and engaged throughout the pandemic. With a host of social events, online opportunities to chat and learn about each other, and their awesome Instagram (@umbc_cwit - check it out), they kept the energy going. The new members of the Student Council, who took over during the summer, are planning a host of activities for the fall that will continue to help keep our community strong.

I hope you enjoy this newsletter, and that you find something here that particularly strikes your interest, and motivates you to get involved. We rely on industry partners, alumni, faculty and staff, and of course, current students to keep the CWIT engine running. So let us hear from you!

Health and peace to all of you!

Carolyn Seaman

CWIT Director

ASSESSMENT AND GRANTS

BY **DR. DANYELLE IRELAND**

In the 2021-22 academic year, our assessment efforts will include our usual examination of event, program, and student outcomes (including retention and graduation), with additional insights into post-graduation outcomes such as full-time employment, employer sectors, and graduate school enrollment. We are also continuing to implement our strategic plan, which includes an assessment of how well we are reaching our target demographics and our impact in the COEIT. We will share more about the results of our assessment work later this academic year.

Our NSF-funded Post-Transfer Pathways Program for Computing and Engineering Majors (Pathways) research project officially ends on August 31, 2021 and we are so proud of all we have accomplished with this work. The Pathways program addressed the national need to increase the number and diversity of new computing and engineering graduates by improving the post-transfer success, retention, and graduation of computing and engineering majors from community colleges to four-year public research universities, with a focus on women and underrepresented minorities. In May 2021, we presented our results at the Annual Conference on Research in Equity and Sustained Participation in Engineering, Computing, and Technology (RESPECT) and received great feedback from the computing and engineering education community. We have also submitted our results to the ACM Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education (SIGCSE) and look forward to other opportunities to disseminate our work. If you are ever interested in reading our presentations and papers, please contact Dr. Ireland for more information (direland@umbc.edu)!

We also just completed the first year of the NSF "Building Capacity in STEM Education Research" project to develop a model for inquiry in engineering education research focused on women's achievement and attrition in undergraduate engineering. In this work we are modeling patterns of major behavior data among undergraduate women entering and exiting an engineering program prior to graduation, working to elucidate the cultural ecosystem of undergraduate engineering education and its relationship to women's achievement motivation, and examining the structural modes of power, privilege, and socialization within the discipline. We will be reaching out to female engineering alumni from COEIT in the coming months to participate in focus groups and hope you will share your experiences!

Our current priorities for research grant proposals include funding to support future cohorts of T-SITE, an investigation into the COEIT climate with a focus on gender and racial equity in emergency remote teaching and learning, and support to examine the impact of our model for peer mentoring in undergraduate computing and engineering.

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

BY **CINDY GREENWOOD**

- Apply to be an Industry Mentor! (Three years of professional experience in computing or engineering fields required, five years preferred) -- Applications Due 9/3
- Speak to current students at Cyber Practicum (Fridays, 11am-12pm; cyber, AI, or data science topics welcome; in-person or virtual) -- contact Cindy at cindyg@umbc.edu for more info
- Fall Career Networking Event -- 10/6, 6-8pm, via Webex (RSVP by 10/3)

PROGRAM LEADS ACCOMPLISHMENTS & INFO

BY ERICA D'ERAMO, CINDY GREENWOOD & KATE O'KEEFE

Peer Mentoring Leads

Our Peer Mentoring Program focused on building the connections between Peer Mentors and their mentees in the Spring 2021 semester; a time when community and support were more crucial than ever. Thank you to our 2020-2021 Peer Mentoring Lead, Reagan Roberts, and our Peer Mentors for all of your hard work and dedication to helping foster these mentor/mentee relationships. We also would like to formally announce and welcome our Peer Mentoring Lead for the 2021-2022 school year: Courtney Cavin! We are looking forward to seeing the exciting events Courtney will help plan for our incoming mentors and mentees!

Cyber Leads

Our Cyber Leads, Katy Leatherwood and Brianna Turgott, hosted two Cyber Workshops and one Cyber Social during the Spring 2021 semester. The Leads facilitated the first workshop themselves, on the topic of cryptography and including a mini-CTF (capture the flag) activity). The second workshop was led by Cyber Scholar alum Priyanka Ranade on the topic of penetration testing and included an opportunity for the participants to follow along and do a hands-on activity. The Cyber Social allowed for a rare opportunity for students to gather in person (with masks and social distancing) on Erickson Field for snacks and games.

K-12 Leads

The Spring 2021 semester brought with it the continued challenge of engaging with K-12 students through virtual events. Even with this challenge, our K-12 Leads and Ambassadors managed to plan and facilitate a couple of brand new events.
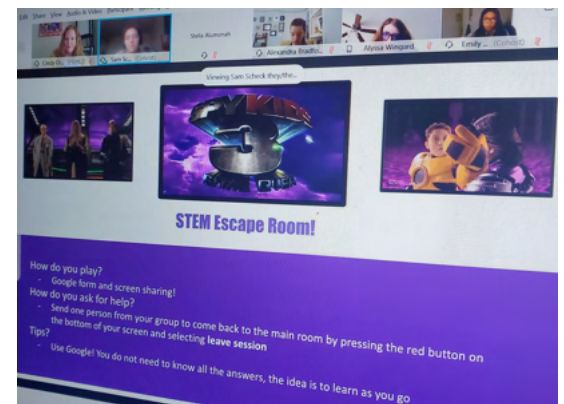
In March, we held our first BLAST Off event for 9th and 10th grade girls with interests in computing and engineering. This event has been a long time in the making, as we have Bits & Bytes for juniors and Cyber 101 aimed at seniors, and have been wanting to add an event for freshmen and sophomores for quite some time. Overall, BLAST Off received positive feedback from participants and we look forward to improving that event and offering it again in the coming year and beyond.

In April, the Leads and Ambassadors led an introductory computer coding workshop for high school juniors from Baltimore City high schools who are involved with Building STEPS, a college access and success program for college-bound students to learn more about STEM fields and careers. We look forward to continuing traditional K-12 events in the coming year as well as trying out some new things!

Escape Room Lead

CWIT's creative virtual adventures continued in the Spring semester with three Escape Rooms. The Committee has designed several types of fun and interactive Escape room experiences that attendees could complete individually or as teams with some awesome prizes at stake! Thank you to our Escape Room Lead and Committee members!

Olivia Bailey (Lead), Mechanical Engineering
Kavya Kavanakudy, Computer Science
Elizabeth Emberger, Mechanical Engineering
Morgan Donohoe, Mechanical Engineering
Shaniah Reece, Chemical Engineering
Mei-Lian Vader, Mechanical Engineering
Shannon Finch, Mechanical Engineering
Ashley Amundsen, Mechanical Engineering
Danielle Rhoten, Mechanical Engineering
Maddy Selby, Mechanical Engineering
Sophie Scheck, Computer Science
America Proctor, Computer Science

Recruitment and K-12 Engagement Leads
Mariela Guardado-Martinelli, Cyber Scholar
Emily Wang, CWIT Scholar
Lakshmi Varanasi, Cyber Scholar

Peer Mentor Program Lead
Reagan Roberts, CWIT Affiliate

Cyber Leads
Katy Leatherwood, Cyber Scholar
Brianna Turgott, Cyber Scholar
Coby Ziv, Cyber Scholar

BEST of CWIT Lead
Maddy Selby, CWIT Scholar

Escape Room Program Lead
Olivia Bailey, CWIT Scholar

FYE Peer Facilitators
Chi Ugboh, CWIT Scholar
Kavya Kavanakudy, CWIT Scholar
Olivia Bailey, CWIT Scholar

CWIT Living Learning Community Resident Assistant
Colin Vieson, Cyber Scholar

CWIT Student Council
President – Frances Watson, CWIT Scholar
Vice President – Kavya Kavanakudy, CWIT Scholar
Secretary – Cindy Quach, CWIT Scholar
Treasurer – Ouriel Ndalamba, CWIT Scholar
CWIT Affiliate Representative – Elizabeth Stiller, CWIT Affiliate
Historian - Shaniah Reece, CWIT Scholar
Freshman Representative – Yumi Yee, CWIT Scholar
Transfer Student Representative – Sarah Nakhon, CWIT Affiliate

Thank you to the 2020 Leads!

Welcome to the 2021 Leads!
Congratulations to the Scholars and Affiliates who have been selected to lead CWIT's program to the next level of success for the 2021-2022 academic year!

Allies in CWIT Co-Leads
Avi Glassman, CWIT Affiliate
Franco Maxey, Cyber Scholar

Recruitment and K-12 Engagement Co-Leads
Emily Wang, CWIT Scholar
Lakshmi Varanasi, Cyber Scholar

Peer Mentor Program Lead
Courtney Cavin, CWIT Scholar

Cyber Co-Leads
Brianna Turgott, Cyber Scholar
Coby Ziv, Cyber Scholar

BEST of CWIT Lead
Laura McAllister, CWIT Scholar

Escape Room Program Lead
Danielle Rhoten, CWIT Scholar

FYE Peer Facilitators
Amina El-Ashry, CWIT Scholar
Mariah Qureshi, CWIT Scholar
Maura Choudhary, CWIT Scholar
Sandrea Nyivih, Cyber Scholar

CWIT Living Learning Community Resident Assistant
Mei Vader, CWIT Scholar

CWIT Student Council
President – Mariah Qureshi, CWIT Scholar
Vice President – Cindy Quach, CWIT Scholar
Secretary – Ruthann Dolinka, CWIT Affiliate
Treasurer – Ouriel Ndalamba, CWIT Scholar
CWIT Affiliate Representative – Shuze Artola, CWIT Affiliate
Social Media Co-Chair – Toni Olafunmiloye, CWIT Affiliate
Social Media Co-Chair – Keonte Wilson-Robinson, T-SITE Scholar
Freshman Representative – Coming Fall 2021
Transfer Student Representative – Coming Fall 2021

UPDATES & HIGHLIGHTS

ALUMNI

by Cindy Greenwood

Emily (Scheerer) Brown (C9, Computer Science) -- Emily became a mom to new baby Max in February 2021 and was promoted at the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab to senior professional staff.

Elyse D. Hill (C12, Mechanical Engineering) -- Successfully defended her Doctoral thesis and obtained her PhD from the University of Guelph in Guelph, ON, Canada.

Alex Jackson (Y1, Computer Science) -- Alex had his first novel, Up From the Deep, published by Severed Press in March 2021. His next novel, Touched By Shadows, has a release date in September 2021.

Kate Williams (C7, Chemical Engineering) -- Kate earned an MD/PhD this year and started her pediatrics research residency at Johns Hopkins.

T-SITE SCHOLARS

by Dr. Danyelle Ireland

To date, the Transfer Scholars in IT and Engineering (T-SITE) program has successfully served 57 transfer students from Maryland community colleges within the CWIT community at UMBC. T-SITE scholars have a 98% retention rate in computing or engineering majors and graduate with their bachelor's degree within three years or less, on average. These results are far exceeding the average metrics of STEM transfer students nationally. We are excited to welcome the T10 cohort into the T-SITE family and the CWIT community: one scholar from the Community College of Baltimore County, one from Harford Community College, two from Prince George's Community College. I have no doubt that they will carry the distinguished T-SITE legacy!

CYBER SCHOLARS & ASSOCIATES

by Cindy Greenwood

As we continued our mostly virtual school year, our Cyber Scholars and Associates completed the spring semester with great academics. An impressive 56 percent of these students earned a semester GPA of 4.0, and 12 of the students have cumulative 4.0 GPAs across their entire UMBC career. The average cumulative GPA of Cyber Scholars is 3.76.

Our Scholars and Associates also engaged in professional development over the summer, completing internships at places such as Northrop Grumman, Facebook, Amazon Web Services, the Department of Defense, T. Rowe Price, General Dynamics, and more. Others spent the summer taking courses, volunteering as tutors to students from Baltimore City, and more.

CWIT & CYBER AFFILIATES

by Kate O'Keefe

Our CWIT & Cyber Affiliates kicked off the semester with our virtual Welcome Back Social, which allowed students and faculty to catch up after Winter Break and socialize before classes begin. Some of the other events that CWIT & Cyber Affiliates participated in during the spring semester included multiple IMPACT workshops, Pick Your Classes, and two Family Meetings. We are looking forward to seeing our returning and new affiliates (in person!) in the fall!

SPRING SEMESTER EVENTS

SOPHOMORE LEADERSHIP

by Thea Robertson

This year, the C18 cohort of CWIT Scholars had the chance to explore their leadership abilities in a practicum course taught by instructors Erica D'Eramo and Thea Robertson. Sophomore Leadership is an opportunity for CWIT scholars to enhance their academic and professional skills. It is also a way for scholars to strengthen connections and friendships within their cohorts. This semester marks the first time CWIT facilitated Sophomore Leadership remotely in its entirety. We conducted sessions in Webex, a virtual classroom platform.

Based on survey results from C18, this year's seminar sessions focused on work/life balance, negotiating, earning respect, communication, motivation, and creativity. The practicum's format was a blend of videos, podcasts, books, and discussions bolstered by personal reflection activities.

Instead of working together in person, scholars worked together remotely to present interactive demonstrations based on the skills they wanted to touch on during the practicum. The scholars were encouraged to use the virtual learning techniques they experienced as students taking remote courses.

Another highlight of the practicum was the Leading Through Conflict Resolution session presented by Kaleigh Mrowka, the former Assistant Director for Residential Education here at UMBC (she now works at UMD).
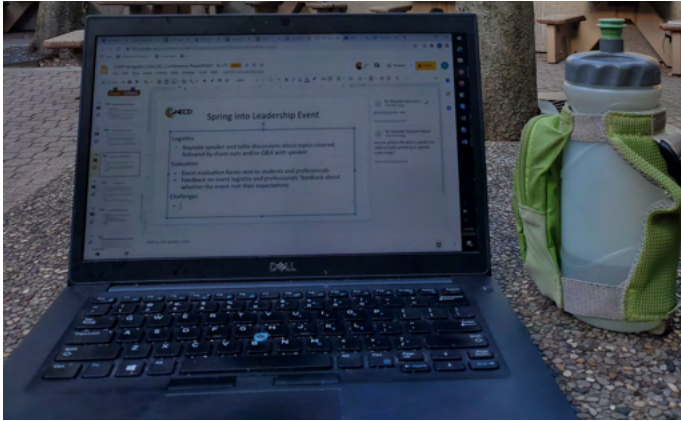
Despite the unique challenges of virtual learning this semester, C18 has developed into resilient and innovative leaders; we're ready to transform the C19 cohort next spring!

IMPACT WORKSHOPS

by Kate O'Keefe

During the 2021 spring semester, CWIT hosted 3 Impact Workshops for Scholars and Affiliates. Topics included:

- What's Your True Colors Leadership Style? by Kate O'Keefe
- Why Attending Conferences Matter (and how to get $$$ to go) by Kate O'Keefe and Mariah Qureshi
- Fulbright Student Information Session by Dr. Brian Souders

Thank you to all of the presenters for taking the time to create engaging and informative workshops for our students this past semester!

ALLIES IN CWIT

by Thomas Waters

The Spring 2021 Allies in CWIT practicum was, unsurprisingly, held fully virtual. It served as a formal continuation to an innovative full-year approach to Allies programming that was piloted in Fall 2020. While the Fall semester included self-directed, structured learning experiences aimed to introduce concepts facing diverse and marginalized identities, the Spring 2021 meetings embraced group-based discussions and learning about historical and current issues impacting women in tech and computing. Both semesters culminated in reflection papers. A total of 15 men in the CWIT family participated in both semesters' activities. We are looking forward to continuing this model, with the support of Avi and Franco, during the 2021-2022 academic year!

SPRING SEMESTER EVENTS

WINTER RETREAT/FACTUALITY

by Cindy Greenwood

In February 2021, we held our Winter Retreat virtually for the first time. We contracted with Natalie Gillard, creator of Factuality, to facilitate the experience this year. Factuality is "a facilitated dialogue, crash course, and interactive experience, that simulates structural inequality, in America."
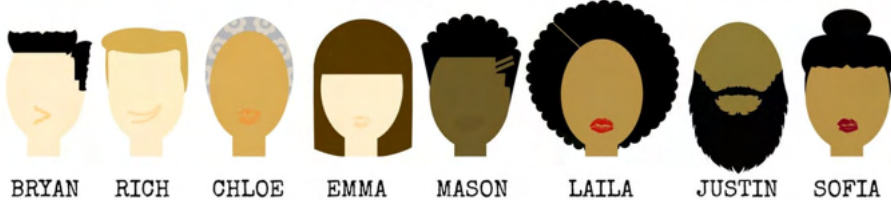
Participant feedback was overwhelmingly positive. Below are a couple of representative comments from students:

"I found the data, stories, and discussions so valuable and important to discuss. Natalie was an absolutely amazing facilitator and had me so engaged and invested. This was truly a great chance to dive into the injustice and disparities in society and I would recommend it to anyone and everyone!"

"You explained things in the best way. You didn't throw out complicated terms and millions of data that people can't understand. You simplified it down and trying to see from another person's point of view was really interesting. I think everyone should go through this."

SPRING INTO LEADERSHIP

by Cindy Greenwood

This year's keynote speaker for Spring Into Leadership was Dr. Alexis McKittrick, a UMBC Chemical Engineering and Meyerhoff Scholars Program alumna, who also holds a Ph.D. in chemical engineering from Georgia Tech. Dr. McKittrick is currently a Program Manager in the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Geothermal Technologies Office and has past experience working at the IDA Science & Technology Policy Institute and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Climate Change Division. She also serves on the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) Board of Directors.

This was the second year of holding this event virtually. Thank you to the 26 industry professionals and 20 UMBC faculty and staff who participated in this event for the benefit of our students!

BITS & BYTES

by Kate O'Keefe

Similar to our other K-12 initiatives, Bits & Bytes was held virtually for the first time ever during the 2020-2021 school year. A committee of 7 current Scholars and Affiliates planned and facilitated our annual Bits & Bytes program for 37 high school junior girls from all over the East Coast, including Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York, and New Jersey. These students competed in virtual computing and engineering competitions, met with faculty and current CWIT students, and learned more about COEIT majors at UMBC. We are hopeful to see these participants as CWIT community members and UMBC students in 2022!

SPRING SEMESTER EVENTS

WELCOME TO CWIT EVENT

by Erica D'Eramo

During the March 31st Welcome to CWIT event, CWIT connected 40 admitted Scholars and Affiliates, 15 UMBC faculty/staff, and 15 upper-class students and alumni through virtual speed ice-breaking and presentations on academic, professional, inclusive, and personal excellence! Each presentation was followed up by an opportunity for new students to meet in small groups with faculty, staff, alumni, and upper-class students to discuss:

Counseling Center & Health Services
CWIT Leadership opportunities
Clubs
Career Center
CWIT Networking Events
Internships
Research
Women's Center
Living Learning Community
I3B
CWIT Events
Academic Success Center
Teaching Assistants & Fellows
CWIT & Cyber Scholar Required Courses
CWIT Mentoring: Peer/Faculty/Industry
Athletics

> "
>
> I had so much fun at this event! It was so awesome to meet the current (and future!) CWIT community. ~New student attendee
>
> What did you like most about the Welcome to CWIT Event?
> Talking to other Scholars and potential classmates.

CWIT LLC ACTIVITIES

by Kate O'Keefe

The CWIT Living Learning Community faced an unusual year in 2020-2021, with part of the community living off-campus due to COVID-19. The RA, Colin Vieson, worked hard to build community and connection between the students living on the LLC and off the LLC by hosting study groups, virtual and in-person events, and serving as a guide to our students. We are excited to have Mei-Lian Vader as the CWIT LLC RA for the ucpoming school year and can't wait to see what she does for the floor!

SUMMER EVENTS

NEW SCHOLAR RETREAT

by Cindy Greenwood

For the second summer in a row, the New Scholar Retreat had to be conducted virtually due to COVID-19. And once again, the incoming Scholars and Associates and the current Scholars on the planning committee impressed us with their levels of engagement and ability to build community while not physically together.

"

I enjoyed the getting-to-know-each-other sessions; it helped me feel like I belonged in the CWIT community. I also learned more about what to expect with academics and the networking experience.

I think the biggest thing I have gleaned from the retreat is how many like-minded individuals are a part of this program. I am excited to meet some of them and make new friends and connections.

Where are our scholars from?
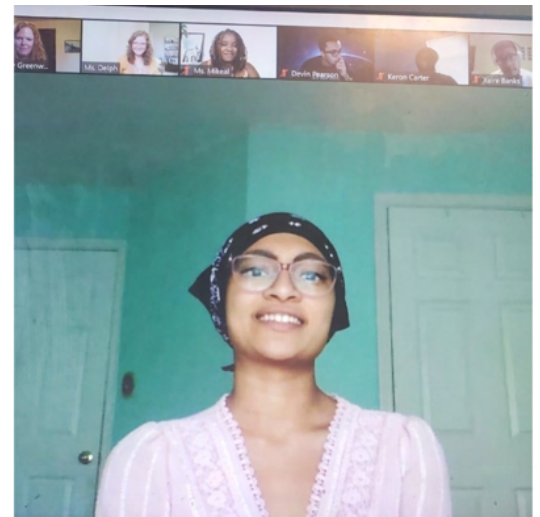
SUMMER EVENTS

BUILDING STEPS/CWIT COLLABORATION

by Cindy Greenwood & Tutors

Building STEPS is a Baltimore non-profit organization that has been operating for more than 20 years. Their mission is to "equip our city's brightest students with the tools to propel them to college and career success." They achieve this mission through supporting students from their 15 Baltimore City partner high schools from their junior year of high school into their college years and beyond with a variety of college access and success programs.

This summer (and hopefully beyond), CWIT and Building STEPS collaborated on a 6-week summer math tutoring program. Six current UMBC students who are affiliated with CWIT served as math tutors four days per week for Building STEPS students participating in the organization's larger summer program.
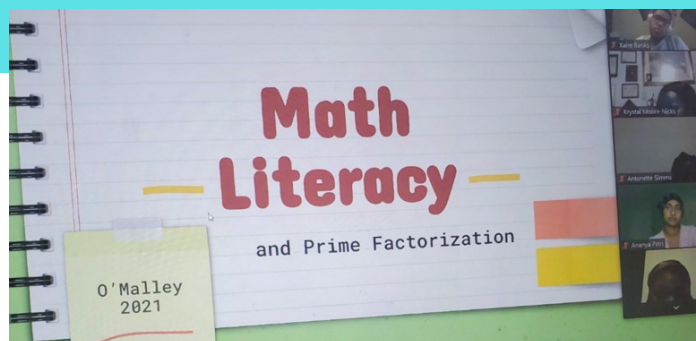
The goals of the math tutoring program included helping students improve their fundamental math skills and to encourage them to think about math and their ability to do well in math courses with a growth mindset. Both of these goals are components that have been shown to improve college success.

A UMBC alumna who was part of the Sherman STEM Teachers Scholars Program when she was a student, Alexis O'Malley, graciously agreed to enhance the existing math tutoring curriculum that Building STEPS used last year. Alexis has taught math at both the high school and college levels and did an incredible job with the curriculum.

Thank you to this summer's tutors!

Lead Tutors (delivered new content on Mondays and Wednesdays): Ananya Patri and Devin Pearson
General Tutors (led practice sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays): Shuze Artola, Isuru Bandara, Shaniah Reece, and Sabrina Volfman

2021 INAUGURAL CWIT AWARD CEREMONY

by Erica D'Eramo

The first annual CWIT Awards Ceremony, presented by the Center for Women in Technology, or CWIT, at UMBC took place on May 7, 2021 virtually. This event celebrates the accomplishments and contributions of the many, many people who make up the CWIT community, and many parts of that community are with us here today, from our students to faculty, from staff members from across campus, to industry partners, to CWIT supporters of all kinds. Thank you to all of the attendees who logged-in to help us celebrate.

CWIT Mentor Award Recipients:
Exemplary Faculty Mentor Award:
Dr. LaBerge, CSEE Department
Exemplary Industry Mentor Award:
Robyn DeWees
Exemplary Peer Mentor Award:
Katy Leatherwood

CWIT Shining Star Award Recipient:
CWIT Student Council
President – Frances Watson
Vice President – Kavya Kavanakudy
Secretary – Cindy Quach
Treasurer – Ouriel Ndalamba
CWIT Affiliate Representative – Elizabeth Stiller
Historian - Shaniah Reece
Freshman Representative – Yumi Yee
Transfer Student Representative – Sarah Nakhon

"The CWIT Student Council has created new initiatives, and made a concentrated effort to connect with the community through events, such as Virtual Café Hours, surveys, and personal networking. They have also worked hard to create a solid foundation of knowledge and resources for future CWIT Student Councils. They have actively pursued ways to connect with more of the CWIT community, specifically international, transfer, and freshmanstudents. They launched the CWIT Instagram page and monthly spirit weeks to interact with the whole community and have some fun common experiences even during this global pandemic."

CWIT Partner Award Recipients:
Outstanding Alumni Partner Award:
Priyanka Ranade
Outstanding Campus Partner Award:
Jess Myers and Damian Doyle
Outstanding Professional Volunteer Award:
Tina Coleman
Outstanding Research Partner Award:
Dr. Lee Blaney

CWIT Values Award Recipients:
Academic Excellence Award:
Olivia Bailey and Ouriel Ndalamba
Personal Excellence Award:
Devin Pearson and Frances Watson
Professional Excellence Award:
Amina Mahmood
Inclusive Excellence Award:
Shaniah Reece

Congratulations Class of 2021!

Aidan Pare
Computer Science
T-SITE Scholar
I'm planning on starting my job at Northrop Grumman that I was offered after participating in a CWIT hosted competition!

Ashley Amundsen
Mechanical Engineering
CWIT Scholar
While I am still currently in the application process, I am planning on going into industry to work as a mechanical engineer.

Carly Heiner
Computer Science
CWIT Scholar
Working at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory in the Signals Exploitation Systems Group

Jovan Sankoh
Information Systems
T-SITE Scholar.

Frances C Watson
Computer Science
CWIT Scholar
I will be attending University of Southern California (USC) for a master's in Computer Science as a GEM Full Fellow, sponsored by SAP America.

Sofonias Habtemariam
Information Systems
T-SITE Scholar
After graduation, I'm going to be working at T Rowe price. I was an intern at the company last summer and they offered me a full time position as a senior infrastructure operations specialist.

Mohammed Khalid
Information Systems, Honors College Certificate
Cyber Scholar
EY Cybersecurity Consultant, McLean, Virginia
Also looking forward to beginning a Masters program in Information Security

Amina Mahmood
Computer Science, Cyber track
Cyber Scholar
JHU APL Full Time

Yiannis Mohamadi
Computer Science, Data Science track
T-SITE Scholar

Fernanda Jimenez
Information Systems
CWIT Scholar
Grad school & continuing to work at my current job

Gabrielle Watson
Information Systems
Cyber Scholar
Georgia, job with Army Cyber

Jennifer Nguyen
Computer Science
Cyber Scholar
Capitol One, McLean VA

Jasmyn Frazier
Mechanical Engineering
CWIT Affiliate

Kadidiatou Sogodogo
Computer Science
T-SITE Scholar

Ariella Garcia
Computer Science Major , Psychology Minor
CWIT Scholar

Karina Lopez
Information Systems
Cyber Scholar

Katy Leatherwood
Computer Science with a track in Data Science
and a minor in Math
Cyber Scholar
I plan to work for Army Cyber Command with the
DoD while pursuing a masters degree in computer
science.

Marian Singletary
Computer Engineering
CWIT Scholar
Employment with Qualcomm in
their Government Sector

Jameka Wiggins
Major: Chemical Engineering
Minor: Entrepreneurship and Innovation
CWIT Scholar
Graduate school pursuing a PhD in Engineering
Education

Devin Pearson
Major: Computer Engineering;
Minor: Theater
Cyber Scholar
I plan on coming back to UMBC
as a master's student in
cybersecurity.

Jeny Shah
Information Systems
CWIT Affiliate
I am planning to work full time after graduation
and I will be joining graduate school with in 1-2
years.

Nathenael Dereb
Computer Science
Cyber Scholar
Software Engineer @
Adobe

Talia Amjad
Computer science
T-SITE Scholar
My plan is to get a full time job and work for a
year to save up some money and comeback for
grad school

Jessi Barrow
Mechanical Engineering
CWIT Affiliate

Danielle Astrid Nyamsi Foyet
Information systems, entrepreneurship
Cyber Scholar
Work full time at Deloitte as a Cyber Analyst whilst
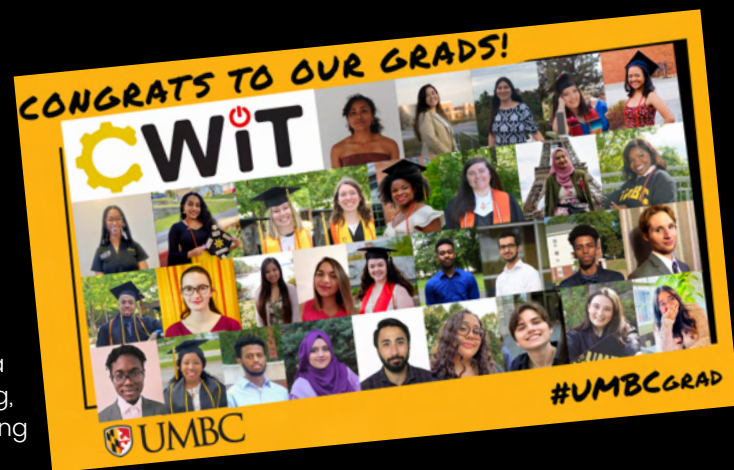being a part time graduate at UMBC

Malcolm Thorpe
Computer Engineering
Cyber Scholar

Kavya Kavanakudy
Computer Science Major, Psychology Minor
CWIT Scholar
I will be moving to Santa Monica, California to
start working at Snap Inc. as a Software
Engineer.

Sadia Rahman
Information Systems
CWIT Affiliate
I'm hoping to continue my post as a data science
scholar (or alum). But I recently got a job as a data
analyst! Once I graduate it'll be working, researching,
and getting on the grad school train (I'll start studying
for my GRE after graduation, wish me luck!!).

CONGRATS TO OUR GRADS!
CWIT
UMBC
#UMBCGRAD

Liz Emberger
Mechanical Engineering
CWIT Scholar
Honestly, who knows what the future will bring. I imagine that I will end up working somewhere on the east coast, relatively close to family and friends. I'll have a job that aligns with my values and brings me fulfillment. Originally, I planned on travelling to Europe over the summer, so I'm looking forward to eventually (post-COVID) being able to travel again.

Naomi Rena Albert
Major: Computer Science (Cybersecurity Track), Minor: Information Systems
CWIT Affiliate
Work in progress :) But I'm planning on staying in Maryland and working in cybersecurity for the government or a government contractor.

Maddy Selby
Mechanical Engineering
CWIT Scholar
I will be starting my Master's degree in Mechanical Engineering at UMBC this fall. I will be working in Dr. Zupan's lab on a research project that I have already started. In the future, I will probably pursue a PhD in Mechanical Engineering. I am looking to combine part of my graduate experience with research abroad in Germany.

Olivia Bailey
Mechanical Engineering Major, Psychology Minor
CWIT Scholar
I will be attending graduate school and pursuing a PhD in either biomedical, mechanical, or bioengineering (depending on the program I select!) with research focusing on biomechanics. University of Delaware

The Center for Women in Technology's Senior Celebration & Graduation Watch Party virtually threw confetti in recognition of all of the hard work it took to get to this point in our Scholar and Affiliate's academic career!

To the 2021 graduates, it has been an amazing privilege to get to know each of you over the past several years. You all have been busy! Very busy and focused with your coursework but you all have gone beyond the classroom to explore and find meaningful experiences. Just to name a few:
You are athletes, researchers, educators, teaching assistants and fellows, FYE peer facilitators, peer mentors, tutors, Sorority sisters, designers, engineers, creators, event planners, K-12 Ambassadors, and social media wizards.

You've been members of many clubs and have become leaders in these organizations. You've facilitated Alternative Spring Break, HackUMBC, Escape rooms, recruitment events, and honestly, so much more.

The passion and hardwork that you bring into all that you do is inspiring. You've inspired me. You've inspired and guided the future generations of CWIT members to also find their passions.

So whether you plan to go to graduate school or into industry. Go to California, Germany, or stay in Maryland, keep that passion. Keep that interest in exploring new things. You have the tools to make an impact. You are going to do some amazing things, and I can't wait to see them happen.

We are so proud of you!